

## **MAYOR'S REPORT AUGUST, 2018**

August is when city council does not meet, however, there is still a lot going on. The Urban Renewal Agency received a promising presentation from a Portland developer to put apartments and retail stores on the old Griffith Motors property across from Ace Hardware on East 2nd Street.

The Recreation building has finally been sold. A Washington developer will restore both the Recreation and the Vault. That leaves only the Blue Building behind the Granada Theatre yet to be sold.

The unfortunate accident during the recent Car Cruise has resulted in many conversations about how to make it a safer event but no one is talking about not continuing it. The Car Cruise is a great event and needs to continue.

I recently toured improvements on the Historic Columbia River Highway and State Trail. When completed, the 73 mile route will be a world class destination drawing visitors and cyclists from around the globe reconnecting with Route 30 and ending in The Dalles. Construction of the Mitchell Point Tunnel, the last section to be completed, will begin in 2020 and "The King of Roads" is expected to reopen in 2022. We need to be ready with bike friendly accommodations.

The Oregon Legislature has committed significant dollars to fix Oregon's roads and bridges. The Dalles will receive approximately \$338,000 and Wasco County, \$832,000 each year after an initial assessment of road and bridge conditions has been completed. Add that to the \$500,000 for rural transit each year going to Wasco County and starting in 2019 and The Dalles will see a vast improvement in our local transportation system.

Many agencies and businesses feel the growth and are developing new plans for the future. We all need to be Partners for Growth.

Communication is the key. Let's get together, share our ideas and ensure we are all heading in the same direction. The future of The Dalles depends upon it.